

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCAR 01336 161210Z

46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /013 W

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R 161100Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO USIA WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6992

AMCONSUL NAPLES

UNCLAS BUCHAREST 1336

USIA FOR IMV IEU

NAPLES FOR BPAO OPPEN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL RO

SUBJECT: PAYMENT FOR SATELLITE FEEDS DURING ROMANIAN PRESIDENT
CEAUSESCU'S VISIT TO THE U.S. DECEMBER 1973

1. ROMTV'S ILIE CIURESCU AND ION LAVRIC INFORMED IO MARCH
9 THAT ROMANIANS HAD RECEIVED BILL FOR PORTION OF EXPENSES
FOR SATELLITE FEEDS MADE DURING CEAUSESCU'S 1973 VISIT THAT
THEY CLAIM AMERICAN SIDE SHOULD PAY. BILL IS FROM ITALIEN
FIRM TELESPAXIO (ADDRESS: CORSO D'ITALIA 43 ROME); HAS INVOICE
NUMBER 52/74; AND IS DATED JULY 2, 1974. BILL IS FOR 49 MINUTES
OF TRANSMISSIONS ON DECEMBER 4, 1973, AND IS DIVIDED INTO
TWO PARTS: "AMERICAN SHARE - \$2,021;" AND "EUROPEAN SHARE -
\$2,539.08." CIURESCU AND LAVRIC TOLD IO THEY HAVE PAID
LATTER FIGURE AND DID SO SHORTLY AFTER RECEIVING BILL. ALTHOUGH
THEY SAY THEY HAVE INFORMED TELESPAXIO THAT THE \$2,021 SHOULD
BE PAID BY AMERICAN SIDE, THE ITALIEN COMPANY PERSISTS IN
SENDING ROMANIANS THE BILL.

2. ROMANIANS NOW WONDER IF THERE MAY HAVE BEEN MISUNDERSTANDING
OF TERMS OF AGREEMENT CONCERNING PAYMENT FOR SATELLITE FEEDS
DURING CEAUSESCU'S VISIT. ACCORDING TO CIURESCU AND LAVRIC,
AMERICAN SIDE AGREED TO PAY ALL EXPENSES INCURRED IN U.S.
AND UP TO SATELLITE, WHILE ROMANIANS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR COSTS
FROM THE SATELLITE TO THE GROUND STATION IN ITALY AND THE LAND
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LINES FROM THERE TO BUCHAREST. (FYI: THIS IS ALSO RECOLLECTION

OF PAO WHO WAS ROMANIAN DESK OFFICER AT THE TIME. END FYI)
TELESPAXIO BILL IS NOT CLEAR IN SAYING WHAT SERVICES THE
\$2,021 COVER.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: IF \$2,021 HAS NOT ALREADY BEEN PAID BY
U.S. SIDE, WOULD APPRECIATE AGENCY CHECKING WITH AT&T IN NEW
YORK AND TELESPAXIO IN ROME TO DETERMINE WHAT BILL COVERS
AND WHOSE RESPONSIBILITY IT IS. FOR NAPLES/OPPEN: CAN YOU SHED
ANY LIGHT ON SITUATION?
BARNES

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NNN

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